

Area 70 Vermont

Virtual Pre-Conference Sharing Session

Saturday, March 20, 2021
8:00AM – 12:30PM

Zoom Meeting ID: 930 6487 5661

Password: 293011

Phone: (929) 205-6099

The General Service Conference will be held in a virtual format April 17 -25, 2021 and the Area 70 Delegate seeks input from the AA members in Vermont on items that may be discussed at the Conference. Our Area 70 District Committee Members (DCMs) have been assigned 2 agenda items and they will summarize and present the background information for comments and a consensus poll on the item.

Agenda

- 8:00 AM Opening Remarks from the Delegate
Video from GSO on the Big Book
- 8:30 AM Session A: Moderated by Ethel A, DCM District 7
Assist: Lisa E, PI/CPC Chair
Question 1: Cooperation with the Professional Community
B. Consider a request to create a pamphlet for mental health professionals.
Question 2: Public Information
E. Consider draft plan to develop podcasts.
- 8:50 AM Session B: Moderated by Clay T, DCM District 8
Assist: Tammy W, Corrections Chair
Question 1: Corrections
B. Discuss innovative ways of carrying the message to alcoholics in correctional facilities/programs.
Question 2: Treatment and Accessibilities
A. Review progress report on the pamphlet "A.A. for the Older Alcoholic."
- 9:10 AM Session C: Moderated by John P, DCM District 1
Assist: Gwen P, Finance Chair
Question 1: Finance
C. Reconsider the 1972 G.S.C. Advisory Action stating "G.S.O. should not accept contributions from clubs, listed or known as such, whether or not composed solely of A.A. members.

Contributions are welcome from groups meeting in clubs as long as they are sent in the name of the group.”

Question 2: Finance

D. Discuss Concept XII, Warranty Two and the practice of “selling of our books at cost or less.”

9:30 AM Session D: Moderated by Jen G, DCM District 10

Assist: Jim L, Literature Chair

Question 1: Grapevine and La Vina

C. Consider a request to develop an AA Grapevine pamphlet on how the AA Grapevine can be utilized to carry the A.A. message.

Question 2: Grapevine and La Vina

E. Review suggested gender-neutral language options for changes to the A.A. Preamble.

9:50 AM Session E: Moderated by Holly A, DCM District 4

Assist: Karen R, Website Chair

Question 1: Literature

B. Consider requests to revise the book Alcoholics Anonymous:

1. Add pages 3 through 41 of the pamphlet “The A.A. Group” as an appendix in the next printing.
2. Revise the first 164 pages.

Question 2: Literature

E. Consider requests to revise the book Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions:

1. To remove the phrase “opposite sex” from paragraph two on page 117 in the chapter “Step Twelve.”
2. To reconsider use of the phrase “lustful enough to rape” in paragraph one on page 66 in the chapter “Step Six.”

10:10 AM Break

10:15 AM Session F: Moderated by LaVerne F, Alt DCM District 2

Assist: Jason N, Registrar

Question 1: Literature

C. Consider proposals related to possible Fifth Edition of the book Alcoholics Anonymous:

1. Develop a Fifth Edition.
2. Develop a Fifth Edition of the book Alcoholics Anonymous with updated stories and revisions to Appendices III and V.
3. Add a proposed addendum to a Fifth Edition foreword of the book Alcoholics Anonymous at the time it is published.

Question 2: Literature

W. Consider the development of a draft Fifth Edition of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous, noting past Advisory Actions.

10:35 AM Session G: Moderated by Bill D, DCM District 3

Assist: Andrew G, Meeting List Chair

Question 1: Literature

G. Consider requests to revise text related to open meetings in the pamphlet “The A.A. Group.”

Question 2: Literature

I. Consider revising the pamphlet “Questions & Answers on Sponsorship”:

1. Change the suggestion that sponsor, and newcomer be of the same sex.

2. Expand the section on “Service Sponsorship” and retitle the pamphlet to include service sponsorship.

10:55 AM Session H: Moderated by Timmer C, DCM District 11

Assist: Jan R, Convention Chair

Question 1: Literature

L. Consider updating the pamphlet “A.A. for the Black and African-American Alcoholic.”

Question 2: Literature

U. Consider if proposed agenda items for plain language, simplified language, accessible translations and large print versions of the book Alcoholics Anonymous, as well as workbooks to help study the program of Alcoholics Anonymous, can be addressed with a common solution.

11:15 AM Session I: Moderated by Bob R, Service Structure Chair

Question 1: Literature

X. Consider revising the pamphlet, “The A.A. Group,” to reflect the importance of the group as a “spiritual entity” as stated in the Long Form of Tradition Five.

Question 2: Literature

Y. Consider revising text highlighting service roles at the group level in the pamphlet, “The A.A. Group.”

11:35 AM Session J: Moderated by Jeff B, DCM District 9

Assist: Jim T, Treasurer

Question 1: Literature

H. Consider request to revise text related to self-support in the pamphlet “Frequently Asked Questions About A.A.”

Question 2: Policy and Admissions

J. Consider requests regarding participation of online groups in the General Service structure.

11:55 PM Session K: Moderated by Harry J, DCM District 5

Assist: Jennifer D, Archives Chair

Question 1: International Conventions/Regional Forums

A. Discuss methods of closing the Big Meetings at the International Convention.

Question 2: International Conventions/Regional Forums

B. Discuss ways to encourage interest in Regional Forums and attract first-time attendees.

12:15 PM Delegate’s Closing Remarks